

Exploring Bryce Canyon

Visiting the Park

Following the plateau rim for much of its 14 miles, the park road and its viewpoints offer stunning geological panoramas. Stop at the visitor center first and watch a time-lapse look at the sediments, and observe the geology, maps, and other publications about the park and this area. At the information desk, you can get advice about your visit.



Timberline in an old forest.

Bryce Canyon National Park offers more than driving tours. Rangers conduct walks, talks, and sample programs in summer. Their topics range from geology and wildlife to air quality. Some 50 miles of hiking trails offer panoramas of snow-capped mountains with meadows. General trails range from easy strolls from picnic overlooks to the most park trail. Just a short walk will leave you astounded by these unusual rock formations and greatly reward your effort.

The real map

For more information, visit the information desk at the visitor center or the map kiosk.

Bryce Amphitheater Close-up

Visitor Center: The park visitor center provides information, maps, and publications, and offers a variety of services. It is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except for January 7, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Hours are extended on the hours are extended.



The information desk: The information desk provides information on the park, including maps, brochures, and publications. It is located at the visitor center.

Engage the Park

Interpretive Programs: Ranger-led programs provide information on the park's geology, history, and natural resources. Programs are offered throughout the park.

Shuttle System: The shuttle system provides transportation for visitors to various viewpoints and trails. It is available during the summer months.

Weather: Weather conditions can vary significantly throughout the park. Visitors should check the forecast before their trip.

Trail System: The park offers a wide variety of hiking trails for all skill levels. Some trails are marked with colored blazes.

Lookouts and Views: The park features numerous scenic overlooks and viewpoints. Some are accessible by shuttle, while others require a short hike.

Camping: The park offers several campgrounds for visitors. Some are developed with amenities, while others are primitive.

Wildlife and Hiking: The park is home to a variety of wildlife species. Hiking is a popular activity for visitors.

Swamp Canyon: Swamp Canyon is a unique geological formation with a large, circular opening. It is a popular spot for photography.

Whitman Bench: Whitman Bench is a scenic overlook with a panoramic view of the park. It is a great spot for a picnic.

Fairyland Point: Fairyland Point is a unique geological formation with a variety of rock shapes. It is a popular spot for photography.

Swamp Canyon Loop: The Swamp Canyon Loop is a short hike that offers a close-up view of the canyon's unique features.

Under the Pine Trail: Under the Pine Trail is a short hike that offers a view of the park's unique rock formations.

General Info: For more information, visit the visitor center or the map kiosk. The park is open year-round.

Accessibility: The park offers a variety of accessible trails and viewpoints. Visitors with disabilities should contact the visitor center for more information.

Overnight Accommodations: The park offers several options for overnight stays, including campgrounds and lodges.

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Wildlife: The park is home to a variety of wildlife species, including bighorn sheep, mule deer, and elk. Visitors should observe wildlife from a safe distance.

Natural Bridge: Natural Bridge is a unique geological formation with a natural rock arch. It is a popular spot for photography.

Agua Canyon: Agua Canyon is a unique geological formation with a large, circular opening. It is a popular spot for photography.

Ponderosa Canyon: Ponderosa Canyon is a unique geological formation with a large, circular opening. It is a popular spot for photography.

Wildflowers: The park offers a variety of wildflowers, including lupines, columbines, and daisies. Visitors should observe wildflowers from a safe distance.

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Dining Along the Plateau Rim



Redoubt and golden.

The 14-mile long main park road offers outstanding views of the park and southern Utah scenery. From many overlooks you can see more than 100 miles on a clear day. In winter, the snow is only the highlight of the beauty, as the view from Rainbow Point is truly sublime. As you drive south from the visitor center to Rainbow Point, you probably gain 1,000 feet of elevation. Watch how the terrain changes from ponderosa pine to spruce, fir, and aspen. Drivers make mistakes about the fall at the better stop-off looking just inside the park where you are using the compass. One-way driving into park allows at the visitor center or other overlook, all views, which with park walk, hikers over 20 feet long are only allowed at Rainbow Point. All overlooks to each of the road, in good weather, drive to the park's roadside and all stop at the overlook on your return.

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